

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
/104 W

-----119424 060157Z /62

O 060142Z SEP 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3194

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USINT HAVANA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, PDEV, UNGA, RQ

SUBJECT: PUERTO RICO IN COMMITTEE OF 24

REF: A) USUN 3426, B) STATE 224262 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: COMMITTEE OF 24 MEETING NOW SCHEDULED

FOR AFTERNOON SEPT 6, MEETING OF SEPT 5 HAVING BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO NONAVAILABILITY OF CONFERENCE FACILITIES. SWEDEN THINKS CUBANS MAY CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO ITS RES TO ATTRACT MORE SUPPORT, WHILE FIJI BELIEVES DESIRE OF MANY COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR CONSENSUS OUTCOME IS "FILTERING THROUGH" TO CUBANS. AUSTRALIA IS PREPARED AT SEPT 6 MEETING TO SUBMIT SERIES OF MAJOR AMENDMENTS TO CUBAN RES TO SET STAGE FOR POSSIBLE COMPROMISE. END SUMMARY.

2. SWEDISH REP HEINEBACK TOLD US EARLY EVENING SEPT 5 THAT CUBANS HAD INDICATED TO HIM THEY MIGHT CONSIDER SOME AMENDMENTS TO THEIR RES BUT DID NOT SEEM TO LIKE THE APPROACH PROPOSED BY INDIAN AMB JAIPAL. HEINEBACK THOUGHT CUBANS MIGHT HOPE TO MODERATE THEIR RES WITH FEW CHANGES TO GAIN MORE SUPPORT AND MOVE SOME NEGATIVE VOTES INTO ABSTENTION COLUMN. HE WONDERED HOW FAR US WAS PREPARED TO GO ON COMPROMISE TEXT, BEYOND THE THREE ELEMENTS MENTIONED BY JAIPAL (I.E. REFS TO GOVERNOR'S PLANS FOR REFERENDUM, TO PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION, AND TO YOUNG STATEMENT ABOUT UN OBSERVATION OF REFERENDUM.) ON PURELY PERSONAL BASIS, POINTING OUT THE IDEA HAD NO WASHINGTON CLEARANCE, MISOFF SUGGESTED POSSIBLE PREAMBULAR REF TO EXPRESSION OF DESIRE BY VIRTUALLY ALL PETITIONERS FOR SOME CHANGE OR IMPROVEMENT IN PRESENT RELATIONSHIP WITH US. WE EMPHASIZED MOST IMPORTANT POINT WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH, WHICH SHOULD NOT IN ANY WAY REFER MATTER TO GA. HEINEBACK THOUGHT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO INTRODUCE ELEMENTS BEYOND THE THREE MENTIONED BY JAIPAL IN ORDER TO COMMAND SUFFICIENT SUPPORT AND THAT INDICATION OF WHAT US COULD ACCEPT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR THOSE TRYING TO WORK OUT AN ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE.

3. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH AUSTRALIAN MISSION SEPT 5 WE HAVE REITERATED OUR POSITION ON COMMITTEE OF 24 ACTION ON PUERTO RICO AS STATED BY MAYNES IN CONVERSATION REPORTED REFTEL. THEY FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT WE ARE OPPOSED TO A RESULT THAT WOULD IN ANY WAY INVITE GA ACTION. THEY ARE AUTHORIZED TO GO AHEAD AND PRESENT AMENDMENTS TO CUBAN RES AS WORKED OUT WITH US WHEN C-24 HAS NEXT MEETING, NOW SCHEDULED FOR 3 P.M. SEPT 6.

4. FIJIAN C-24 REP LAL TOLD MISOFF SEPT 5 THAT FIJI IS STILL PREPARED TO SUPPORT ANY MOVE TO DEFER ACTION AND FULLY SUPPORTS EFFORTS TOWARD "COMPLETE MODIFICATION" OF CUBAN RES. HE SAID THEY ARE "VERY UNHAPPY" WITH CUBAN RES IN PRESENT FORM BUT COULD NOT SAY WHAT POSITION WOULD BE IF IT EVER CAME TO VOTE. FINAL POSITION WOULD DEPEND

ON CIRCUMSTANCES AT TIME. (IMPLICATION WAS THAT IF WE
HAD GONE ALONG WITH GENUINE EFFORT TO ACHIEVE COMPROMISE
AND OTHER SIDE HAD REMAINED ADAMANT, VOTE AGAINST RES
WOULD BE MORE LIKELY, BUT THIS WAS NOT SPELLED OUT.)
LAL SAID HE WAS IN TOUCH WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER COMMITTEE
MEMBERS WHO WERE INTERESTED IN CONSENSUS RESULT (HE
MENTIONED SIERRA LEONE). HE THOUGHT SOME PRESSURE WAS
BUILDING UP FOR SUCH RESULT AND THAT THIS WAS FILTERING
THROUGH TO THE CUBANS.

5. MISOFF WHO CONTACTED DIAKITE OF MALI WAS TOLD HE
STILL HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON CUBAN RES BUT WISHED TO POINT

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OUT "GREAT MOVE" MALI HAD MADE LAST YEAR IN ABSTAINING ON
DEFERRAL MOTION (AFTER VOTING AGAINST DEFERRAL IN 1975).
HE ALSO EXPRESSED VIEW SITUATION GREATLY CHANGED THIS
YEAR IN LIGHT OF FACT ALL PUERTO RICAN GROUPS HAD
APPEARED BEFORE COMMITTEE AND INDICATED DESIRE FOR CHANGE
IN PRESENT STATUS. IN VIEW OF THIS THERE WOULD HAVE TO
BE A RESOLUTION. HE WAS NONCOMMITTAL ON JAIPAL
APPROACH, NOTING JAIPAL HAD NOT SUBMITTED ANY RESOLUTION.
MISOFF REITERATED STRONG US OBJECTIONS TO CUBAN RES BUT,
WITH REF TO DIAKITE'S REMARKS ON NEED OFR SOME RESOLUTION,
INDICATED THAT US WAS NOT OPPOSED TO OUTCOME THAT COULD
BE ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS, SUCH AS SUGGESTED BY JAIPAL.
YOUNG

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Remarks:
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Status: NATIVE
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Type: TE
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Declassified/Released
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